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NEWS from Congressman CHARLES W. WHALEN, Jr.

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#68-149

August 21, 1968

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

Congressman Charles W. Whalen, Jr. today issued the following statement regarding the Czechoslovakian crisis:

"The invasion of Czechoslovakia by Russia and other Eastern European countries is both discouraging and disheartening. I have been in close contact with the State Department for the past several weeks and officials there have viewed this as perhaps the most serious crisis since 1961. It was for this reason that the United States government has endeavored to take no action which would precipitate or serve as an excuse for an invasion of Czechoslovakia by Russia.

"Despite this fact, Russia has seen fit to go in. I feel that the United States will not become involved in any unilateral military action. Instead, I believe we will refer this matter or seek to have it referred to the United Nations Security Council."